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UNCLAS E F T O

SENSITIVE NOFORN

CARACAS 00952

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Lasers:

INFO: PA ADMIN CONS

clan01:

ACTION: AMB

INFO: RSO DCM POL

DISSEMINATION: AMB

CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: AMB: CSHAPIRO

DRAFTED: DCM: FBCOOK

CLEARED: RSO: JMDAVIS, CONS: SSALMON

VZCZCCVI907

RR RUEHC

DE RUEHCV #0952 1001046

ZNY EEEEE ZZH

R 101046Z APR 02

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5410

BT

UNCLAS E F T O CARACAS 000952

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NOFORN

DEPT FOR DS/OP/WHA

DEPT ALSO FOR WHA/AND, DS/DSS/OSAC

DEPT ALSO FOR CA/ACS/WHA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, CASC, VE

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING OF 04/09/02

REF: Caracas 929

1. Entire Text is Sensitive But Unclassified. Please protect accordingly.

2. (SBU) An Emergency Action Committee (EAC) meeting was held at 0900 hours on 04/09/02 to discuss the national strike, which was initiated this morning. Ambassador, Charles Shapiro, chaired the EAC. Members of the EAC offered various insights as to what might occur based on news stories, interlocutors and contacts. The EAC determined that all appropriate measures had been taken to ensure the safety of the Embassy community. A warden message had previously been issued to the US citizen community and OSAC membership, as reported in Reftel.

3. (SBU) The EAC concluded that the Embassy community faced little to no threat by the strike and potential

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: NORMAN M BOUTON
DATE/CASE ID: 19 OCT 2006 200304421

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demonstrations. Accountability of personnel was re-emphasized. Schools utilized by the Embassy remained closed. The Embassy continued operations at near normal staffing and tempo, even keeping Mission Performance Plan review in effect. While the Visa applicant line reported only 50 cancellations, American Citizen Services reported several.

4. (SBU) The only planned demonstration was scheduled for 1600 hours at the PDVSA headquarters in Chuao, an area some four miles, or 15 minutes driving time from the Embassy. As of this writing, reports indicate that opposing groups, members of the opposition and pro-Chavez supporters, had clashed with fistfights, rock throwing and a general escalation of verbal insults. Policia Metropolitana deployed riot police to the scene and it is known that at least one water cannon was used to quell the violence. More details of the national strike will be reported septel.

5. (U) Point of contact for information contained in this report is John M. Davis, Regional Security Officer - IVG:
643-2403

SHAPIRO

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